DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



March 13, 2006

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 1-13-06

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS
ALL CALWORKS COORDINATORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL
 [] State Law Change [] Federal Law or Regulation Change [] Court Order [] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties [X] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: TRANSITIONAL FOOD STAMP BENEFITS

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NUMBERS I-21-04.

The purpose of this letter is to provide clarification regarding the Transitional Food Stamp Program (TFS). When a food stamp household loses CalWORKs cash assistance the household is usually entitled to TFS benefits according to the California Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) Section 63-504.13.

As counties have become automated the Department is providing further clarification to All County Information Notice (ACIN) I-21-04, Question 1, regarding the timeframe that counties have to approve TFS benefits. As stated in the ACIN "the transition between regular food stamp and TFS should not result in a break-in-aid." However, now that TFS determinations are automated, households should receive benefits on their previous EBT food stamp issuance date provided the proper noticing requirements for the CalWORKs and Food Stamp programs have been met. (MPP Section 63-504.132)

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Detta Hunt, Food Stamp Policy Development Unit, at (916) 653-6161 or detta.hunt@dss.ca.gov. Please continue to submit routine TFS policy questions through the California Welfare Directors Food Stamp Committee Food Stamp Review and Advisory Team (FRAT). Questions that have statewide implications will be forwarded to the Food Stamp Policy Bureau for clarification.

Sincerely,

RICHTON YEE, Chief Food Stamp Branch